

What is claimed is:

1. An image reading device for reading a document being conveyed with a stationary reading section at a reading position on a glass platen, said image reading device comprising:

moving means for moving the glass platen; and

control means for causing said moving means to move said glass platen while the reading section reads an image at the reading position;

wherein said reading section and the reading position on the glass platen are movable relative to each other.

2. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said moving means moves, during an interval between a start and an end of reading of the document, the glass platen from a preselected home position by a preselected stroke and then returns said glass platen to said home position at least one time.

3. The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said moving means moves the glass platen in a subscanning direction.

4. The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said control means allows a next document to be fed after the glass platen has returned on the home position.

5. The device as claimed in claim 4, wherein said

moving means moves the glass platen in a subscanning direction.

6. The device as claimed in claim 4, further comprising guide means positioned downstream of the glass platen in a direction of document conveyance for scooping up a leading edge of the document.

7. The device as claimed in claim 6, wherein said moving means moves the glass platen in a subscanning direction.

8. The device as claimed in claim 6, wherein said control means causes said moving means to move said glass platen when the leading edge of the document reaches said guide means.

9. The device as claimed in claim 8, wherein said moving means moves the glass platen in a subscanning direction.

10. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said moving means moves the glass platen in a subscanning direction.

11. An image reading device for reading a document being conveyed with a stationary reading section at a reading position on a glass platen, said image reading device comprising:

a white plate positioned above the glass platen for constituting a white reference for reading the document;

moving means for moving the glass platen; and

control means causing said moving means to move said glass platen while the reading section reads an image.

wherein while causing said moving means to move said glass platen, said control means causes said reading section to read an image, determines whether or not contamination is present on the basis of resulting image data, and distinguishes contamination of said glass platen and contamination of said white plate.

12. The device as claimed in claim 11, further comprising contamination detecting means for comparing current image data and immediately preceding image data, determining whether or not contamination is present on the basis of a difference between said current image data and said immediately preceding image data, and determining whether said contamination exists on the glass platen or on said white plate, wherein when said contamination detected by said contamination detecting means exceeds a preselected level, said control means inhibits the reading section from reading an image.

13. The device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said moving means moves the glass platen in a main scanning direction.

14. The device as claimed in claim 12, further comprising display means for displaying an alarm message

indicative of the contamination exceeding the preselected level.

15. The device as claimed in claim 14, wherein said moving means moves the glass platen in a main scanning direction.

16. The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein said moving means moves the glass platen in a main scanning direction.

17. An image reading device for reading a document being conveyed with a stationary reading section at a reading position on a glass platen, said image reading device comprising:

a body;

moving means for moving the glass platen; and

cleaning means affixed to said body and contacting the glass platen for cleaning a top of said glass platen;

wherein while said moving means moves the glass platen, said cleaning means moves relative to said glass platen to thereby clean the top of said glass platen.

18. The device as claimed in claim 17, further comprising control means for causing said moving means to move the glass platen while causing the reading section to read an image.

19. The device as claim in claim 18, wherein said cleaning means cleans the top of the glass platen

periodically.

20. The device as claimed in claim 18, wherein said control means causes said moving means to move the glass platen in one direction for reading an image and to move said glass platen in the other direction opposite to said one direction for cleaning the top of said glass platen.

21. The device as claim in claim 20, wherein said cleaning means cleans the top of the glass platen periodically.

22. The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein said cleaning means is coated with a water-repellent agent or impregnated with a low-friction agent.

23. The device as claim in claim 22, wherein said cleaning means cleans the top of the glass platen periodically.

24. The device as claim in claim 17, wherein said cleaning means cleans the top of the glass platen periodically.

25. An image reading device for reading a document being conveyed with a stationary reading section at a reading position on a glass platen, said image reading device comprising:

a contact image sensor for reading an image;

a press roller for conveying a document while pressing said document against said contact image sensor,

and constituting a white reference;

sheet pay-out means for paying out a transparent sheet held between said contact image sensor and said press roller and used to lay the document thereon;

sheet take-up means for taking up the transparent sheet paid out; and

control means for causing said sheet pay-out means to pay out the transparent sheet during reading of the document;

wherein said control means causes said contact image sensor and a reading position of the transparent sheet to move relative to each other while causing the reading section to read an image.

26. The device as claimed in claim 25, wherein said sheet pay-out means causes the transparent sheet to move in a subscanning direction.

27. The device as claimed in claim 25, wherein said control means causes said sheet pay-out means to move the transparent sheet while causing the reading section to read an image, determines whether or not contamination exists on the basis of resulting image data, and determines whether said contamination exists on the transparent sheet or on said press roller.

28. The device as claimed in claim 27, wherein said sheet pay-out means causes the transparent sheet to move

in a subscanning direction.

29. An image reading device for reading a document being conveyed with a stationary reading section at a reading position on a glass platen, said image reading device comprising:

a moving device for moving the glass platen; and

a controller for causing said moving device to move said glass platen while the reading section reads an image;

wherein said reading section and the reading position on the glass platen are movable relative to each other.

30. The device as claimed in claim 29, wherein said moving device moves, during an interval between a start and an end of reading of the document, the glass platen from a preselected home position by a preselected stroke and then returns said glass platen to said home position at least one time.

31. The device as claimed in claim 30, wherein said moving device moves the glass platen in a subscanning direction.

32. The device as claimed in claim 30, wherein said controller allows a next document to be fed after the glass platen has returned on the home position.

33. The device as claimed in claim 32, wherein said moving device moves the glass platen in a subscanning

direction.

34. The device as claimed in claim 32, further comprising a guide positioned downstream of the glass platen in a direction of document conveyance for scooping up a leading edge of the document.

35. The device as claimed in claim 34, wherein said moving device moves the glass platen in a subscanning direction.

36. The device as claimed in claim 34, wherein said controller causes said moving device to move said glass platen when the leading edge of the document reaches said guide.

37. The device as claimed in claim 36, wherein said moving device moves the glass platen in a subscanning direction.

38. The device as claimed in claim 29, wherein said moving device moves the glass platen in a subscanning direction.

39. An image reading device for reading a document being conveyed with a stationary reading section at a reading position on a glass platen, said image reading device comprising:

a white plate positioned above the glass platen for constituting a white reference for reading the document;

a moving device for moving the glass platen; and

a controller for causing said moving device to move said glass platen while the reading section reads an image.

wherein while causing said moving device to move said glass platen, said controller causes said reading section to read an image, determines whether or not contamination is present on the basis of resulting image data, and distinguishes contamination of said glass platen and contamination of said white plate.

40. The device as claimed in claim 39, further comprising a contamination detecting circuit for comparing current image data and immediately preceding image data, determining whether or not contamination is present on the basis of a difference between said current image data and said immediately preceding image data, and determining whether said contamination exists on the glass platen or on said white plate, wherein when said contamination detected by said contamination detecting circuit exceeds a preselected level, said controller inhibits the reading section from reading an image.

41. The device as claimed in claim 40, wherein said moving device moves the glass platen in a main scanning direction.

42. The device as claimed in claim 40, further comprising a display for displaying an alarm message indicative of the contamination exceeding the preselected

level.

43. The device as claimed in claim 42, wherein said moving device moves the glass platen in a main scanning direction.

44. The device as claimed in claim 39, wherein said moving device moves the glass platen in a main scanning direction.

45. An image reading device for reading a document being conveyed with a stationary reading section at a reading position on a glass platen, said image reading device comprising:

a body;

a moving device for moving the glass platen; and

a cleaning member affixed to said body and contacting the glass platen for cleaning a top of said glass platen;

wherein while said moving device moves the glass platen, said cleaning member moves relative to said glass platen to thereby clean the top of said glass platen.

46. The device as claimed in claim 45, further comprising a controller for causing said moving device to move the glass platen while causing the reading section to read an image.

47. The device as claim in claim 46, wherein said cleaning member cleans the top of the glass platen periodically.

48. The device as claimed in claim 46, wherein said controller causes said moving member to move the glass platen in one direction for reading an image and to move said glass platen in the other direction opposite to said one direction for cleaning the top of said glass platen.

49. The device as claim in claim 48, wherein said cleaning member cleans the top of the glass platen periodically.

50. The device as claimed in claim 45, wherein said cleaning member is coated with a water-repellent agent or impregnated with a low-friction agent.

51. The device as claim in claim 50, wherein said cleaning member cleans the top of the glass platen periodically.

52. The device as claim in claim 45, wherein said cleaning member cleans the top of the glass platen periodically.

53. An image reading device for reading a document being conveyed with a stationary reading section at a reading position on a glass platen, said image reading device comprising:

a contact image sensor for reading an image;

a press roller for conveying a document while pressing said document against said contact image sensor, and constituting a white reference;

a sheet pay-out member for paying out a transparent sheet held between said contact image sensor and said press roller and used to lay the document thereon;

a sheet take-up member for taking up the transparent sheet paid out; and

a controller for causing said sheet pay-out member to pay out the transparent sheet during reading of the document;

wherein said controller causes said contact image sensor and a reading position of the transparent sheet to move relative to each other while causing the reading section to read an image.

54. The device as claimed in claim 53, wherein said sheet pay-out member causes the transparent sheet to move in a subscanning direction.

55. The device as claimed in claim 53, wherein said controller causes said sheet pay-out member to move the transparent sheet while causing the reading section to read an image, determines whether or not contamination exists on the basis of resulting image data, and determines whether said contamination exists on the transparent sheet or on said press roller.

56. The device as claimed in claim 55, wherein said sheet pay-out means causes the transparent sheet to move in a subscanning direction.